

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 342

Expressing support for designation of May 2, 2009, as “Vietnamese Refugees Day”.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2009

Mr. CAO submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of May 2, 2009, as  
“Vietnamese Refugees Day”.

Whereas the Library of Congress’ Asian Division together  
with many Vietnamese-American organizations across the  
United States will sponsor a “Journey to Freedom: A  
Boat People Retrospective” symposium on May 2, 2009;

Whereas Vietnamese refugees were asylum-seekers from Com-  
munist-controlled Vietnam;

Whereas many Vietnamese escaped in boats during the late  
1970s, after the Vietnam War and by land across the  
Cambodian, Laotian, and Thai borders into refugee  
camps in Thailand;

Whereas over 2,000,000 Vietnamese boat people and other  
refugees are now spread across the world, in the United

States, Australia, Canada, France, England, Germany, China, Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, the Philippines, and other nations;

Whereas over half of all overseas Vietnamese are Vietnamese-Americans, and Vietnamese-Americans are the fourth-largest Asian American group in the United States;

Whereas, as of 2006, 72 percent of Vietnamese-Americans were naturalized United States citizens, the highest rate among all Asian groups;

Whereas Vietnamese-Americans have made significant contributions to the rich culture and economic prosperity of the United States;

Whereas Vietnamese-Americans have distinguished themselves in the fields of literature, the arts, science, and athletics, and include actors and actresses, physicists, an astronaut, and Olympic athletes; and

Whereas May 2, 2009, would be an appropriate day to designate as “Vietnamese Refugees Day”: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports  
 2 the designation of “Vietnamese Refugees Day” in order  
 3 to commemorate the arrival of Vietnamese refugees in the  
 4 United States, to document their harrowing experiences,  
 5 and subsequent achievements in their new homeland, to  
 6 honor the host countries that welcomed the boat people,  
 7 and to recognize the voluntary agencies and nongovern-  
 8 mental organizations that facilitated their resettlement,

- 1 adjustment, and assimilation into mainstream society in
- 2 the United States.

